



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Prostate Cancer Awareness

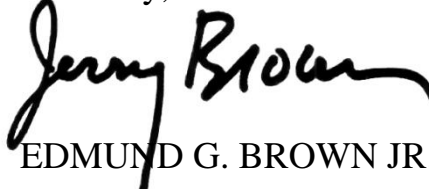
Prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in men aside from skin cancer, with one in seven men developing this disease in their lifetime. The American Cancer Society estimates there will be 180,890 new cases of prostate cancer in the United States during 2016, resulting in 26,120 deaths. In California, an estimated 17,240 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and 3,050 will die from the disease.

Early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms, and studies suggest strong familial predisposition may be responsible for 5 to 10 percent of the disease cases. Recent studies suggest a diet high in processed meat or dairy foods may be a risk factor, and obesity appears to increase the risk of aggressive prostate cancer.

The five-year relative survival rate approaches 100 percent when prostate cancer is diagnosed early, at stages I or II, and men receive treatment early, but the percentage drops to 28 percent when the cancer spreads to the other parts of the body or is diagnosed at stage IV. Treatment options for prostate cancer vary depending upon a man's age, stage, and grade of his cancer, as well as his other existing medical conditions.

The state of California joins communities across the nation to increase the awareness of the importance for men to make an informed decision with their health care provider about early detection and testing for prostate cancer.

Sincerely,



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.